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Attorney Docket No. 17559-038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bahlmann et al.
Serial No: 10/603,567
Filed: June 25, 2003
For: MULTIFOLDED COMPOSITE TAPE FOR USE IN
CABLE MANUFACTURE AND METHODS FOR MAKING SAME

Examiner: Chau N. Nguyen
Art Unit: 2831

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED MARCH 2, 2004

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed March 2, 2004, Applicants submit this response to the issues raised therein.

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's Office Action. Applicants believe the claims as pending are in condition for allowance and respectfully request reconsideration.

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 9-12, 14 and 16 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 9-12, 14 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 3,911,200 to Simons et al. ("Simons"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-3, 9-12, 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simons for the reasons provided below.

Claim 1 is directed to a tape for use within an interior defined by a cable jacket. The tape comprises two or more elongated fin-like members joined along their edges. Each elongated fin-like member has a width extending radially from their edges and a length